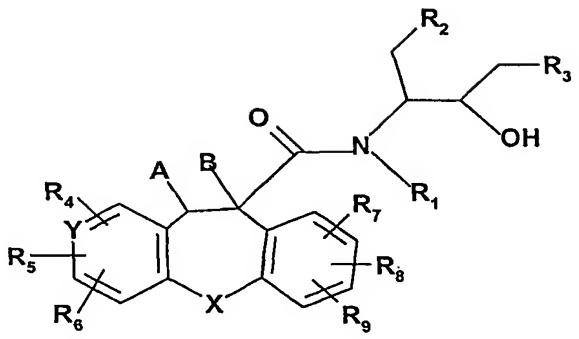
Claims:

1. A compound of formula I



wherein

X is O, NH, N(C_{1-4})alkyl, CO or CHOH,

Y is CH or N,

A and B are each hydrogen or together form a second bond between the carbon atoms to which they are attached,

R_1 is hydrogen or (C_{1-4})alkyl,

R_2 is optionally substituted (C_{1-8})alkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl(C_{1-4})alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl,

R_3 is $CH(R_e)CONR_aR_b$ or $(CH_2)_nNR_cR_d$,

n is 0, 1 or 2,

R_a, R_b, R_c and R_d, independently, are hydrogen or optionally substituted (C_{1-8})alkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl(C_{1-4})alkyl, (C_{7-9})bicycloalkyl, 1-aza-(C_{7-9})bicyclo alkyl, aryl, aryl(C_{1-4})alkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaryl(C_{1-4})alkyl or heterocyclyl, or

R_a, R_b, R_c and R_d, together with the nitrogen to which they are attached, form an optionally substituted pyrrolidinyl, piperidino, morpholino or piperazinyl group,

R_e is (C_{1-8})alkyl, (C_{1-4})alkoxy(C_{1-4})alkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl or (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl(C_{1-4})alkyl, and

R_4, R_5, R_6, R_7, R_8 and R_9, independently, are hydrogen, (C_{1-4})alkyl, (C_{1-4})alkoxy, (C_{1-4})alkyl-SO_2, cyano, nitro or halogen, in free base or acid addition salt form.

2. A compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein

X is O, NH, N(C_{1-4})alkyl, CO or CHOH,

Y is CH or N,

A and B are each hydrogen or together form a second bond between the carbon atoms to which they are attached,

R_1 is hydrogen or (C_{1-4})alkyl,

R_2 is optionally substituted (C_{1-8})alkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl(C_{1-4})alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl,

R_3 is $CH(R_e)CONR_aR_b$ or $(CH_2)_nNR_cR_d$,

n is 0, 1 or 2,

R_a, R_b, R_c and R_d, independently, are hydrogen or optionally substituted (C_{1-8})alkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl(C_{1-4})alkyl, aryl, aryl(C_{1-4})alkyl, heteroaryl or heteroaryl(C_{1-4})alkyl or

R_a, R_b, R_c and R_d, together with the nitrogen to which they are attached, form an optionally substituted pyrrolidinyl, piperidino, morpholino or piperazinyl group,

R_e is (C_{1-8})alkyl, (C_{1-4})alkoxy(C_{1-4})alkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl or (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl(C_{1-4})alkyl, and

R_4, R_5, R_6, R_7, R_8 and R_9, independently, are hydrogen, (C_{1-4})alkyl, (C_{1-4})alkoxy, (C_{1-4})alkyl-SO_2, cyano, nitro or halogen, in free base or acid addition salt form.

3. A compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein

X is O, NH or CO,

Y is CH or N,

A and B are each hydrogen or together form a second bond between the carbon atoms to which they are attached,

R_1 is hydrogen,

R_2 is (C_{1-4})alkyl, or
phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, amino or halogen,

R_3 is $CH(R_e)CONR_aR_b$ or $(CH_2)_nNR_cR_d$,

n is 0 or 1,

R_a and R_b, independently, are hydrogen, (C_{1-7})alkyl, (C_{1-4})alkoxy(C_{1-4})alkyl, benzyl, phenyl, (C_{3-5})cycloalkyl(C_{1-4})alkyl, pyridyl, pyridyl(C_{1-4})alkyl, (C_{1-4})alkyl piperidinyl, tetrahydropyranyl, (C_{7-8})bicycloalkyl, 1-aza-(C_{7-9})bicycloalkyl; (C_{5-6})cycloalkyl substituted by hydroxy; or pyrazolyl or isoxazolyl being unsubstituted or substituted by (C_{1-4})alkyl;

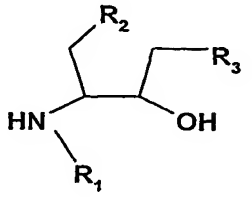
R_c and R_d, independently, are hydrogen, tetrahydronaphthyl, (C_{1-4})alkoxy tetrahydronaphthyl, (C_{3-5})cycloalkyl being unsubstituted or substituted by halophenyl; chromanyl being substituted by halogen, (C_{1-4})alkyl or (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl; or (C_{1-4})alkyl being unsubstituted or mono or disubstituted by (C_{5-7})cycloalkyl, phenyl, (C_{1-4})alkoxy phenyl, di(C_{1-4})alkoxy phenyl, halophenyl, phenoxy phenyl, (C_{1-4})alkyl phenyl, hydroxy (C_{1-4})alkyl phenyl, (C_{1-4})alkoxy (C_{1-4})alkoxy phenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl, thiadiazolyl, benzimidazolyl or furyl;

R_e is (C_{1-8})alkyl, and

R_4, R_5, R_6, R_7, R_8 and R_9, independently, are hydrogen or halogen,

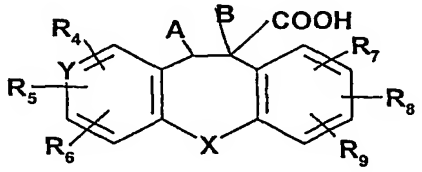
in free base or acid addition salt form.

4. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, or a salt thereof, which includes the steps of acylating a compound of formula II



II

wherein R_1, R_2 and R_3 are as defined in claim 1, with an acid of formula III



III

wherein X, Y, A, B, R_4, R_5, R_6, R_7, R_8 and R_9 are as defined in claim 1, or an activated form thereof, and recovering the so obtained compound of formula I in free base or acid addition salt form.

5. A compound of any one of claims 1 to 3 in free base or pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt form, for use as a pharmaceutical.

6. A compound of any one of claims 1 to 3 in free base or pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt form, for use in the treatment of neurological and vascular disorders related to beta-amyloid generation and/or aggregation.

7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of any one of claims 1 to 3 in free base of pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt form, in association with a pharmaceutical carrier or diluent.

8. The use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 3 in free base or pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt form, as a pharmaceutical, for the treatment of neurological and vascular disorders related to beta-amyloid generation and/or aggregation.

9. The use of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 3 in free base or pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt form, for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of neurological and vascular disorders related to beta-amyloid generation and/or aggregation.

10. A method for the treatment of neurological and vascular disorders related to beta-amyloid generation and/or aggregation in a subject in need of such treatment, which comprises administering to such subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 3 in free base or pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt form.

11. A combination comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of any one of claims 1 to 3 in free base of pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt form and a second drug substance, for simultaneous or sequential administration.